

2025

Annual Report



hssa

health sciences & services authority of spokane county



About HSSA

Health Sciences & Services Authority (HSSA) of Spokane County is a Public Authority authorized by Washington State and Spokane County. Our mission and goals are determined by our founding documents.


Washington State RCW 35.104 created the HSSA to promote bioscience based economic development, combat disease and promote public health.

Spokane County Resolution 8-0156 establishes HSSA's goals and priorities directing us to enhance our efforts to create a nationally competitive healthcare cluster, and catalyze connections between higher education and healthcare that will lead to high wage job creation, economic diversification and long-term sustainability."

The results expected are:

1. Provide better health and healthcare within Spokane County and the region.
2. Create hundreds of well-paying jobs within the County and region.
3. Develop an economic engine to power future growth within the County.

We work toward our mission through grant-making and community leadership.



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Strategic Plan Release & Progress

In 2025 the Health Sciences & Services Authority of Spokane County released a newly updated Strategic Plan- our first in many years. This bold new vision follows two years of dramatic increases in grant-making at the organization, and a drive to see the dollars allocated to HSSA put to use in service of its mission.

Administration: Routinely demonstrate consistency and clarity in our conduct and communications.

Progress:

- Clear metrics of success were established
- Grant processes and guidelines were standardized and communicated
 - Grant types and objectives, anticipated release dates, and scoring rubrics all posted on HSSA's website
- Quarterly newsletter is distributed via email with grant opportunities and information about the progress of grant recipients
- First ever annual report published in 2025

Health and Charity Care to the Uninsured and Underinsured: Prioritize grants targeting evidence-based needs for improving health access and outcomes, including expanding capacity of the workforce.

Progress:

- Access to Care Grant priority areas aligned with results from the Spokane County Community Health Needs Assessment.
 - Addressing health disparities: incentivized scoring to prioritize organizations led by the population served.
 - Addressing evidence-based practices:
 - Applicants required to incorporate HOPE Framework and Positive Childhood Experiences into their service model
 - Applicants required to describe their method for quality assurance and improvement
- Ad hoc Board workgroup established to address increasing the capacity of Spokane County's healthcare system

Bioscience Based Economic Development: Leverage resources to attract and expand investment in promising bioscience research, development and commercialization to advance new therapies and treatments, provide better health and healthcare, and grow well-paying jobs.

Progress:

- Ad hoc Board workgroup established to address increasing the capacity of Spokane County's healthcare system
- An annual schedule of strategic, targeted, dollar-restricted grant processes was released and a budget created for each grant type.
 - Research, Development and Commercialization in Spokane County's Bioscience Industry
 - Early Stage- Up to \$100,000
 - Level 1- Up to \$250,000
 - Level 2- Up to \$750,000
 - Research, Development and Commercialization in Relocating Entities
 - Level 1- Up to \$250,000
 - Level 2- Up to \$750,000
 - Spokane County Bioscience Infrastructure and Ecosystem Building- Up to \$100,000



2025 Grants

Twelve awards were granted in 2025 totaling \$3,947,851

Matching Grants for Bioscience Based Economic Development:
\$3,382,851

Credential Network \$250,000

Inherent Biosciences \$1,000,000

Litehouse Health \$1,000,000

Quadralynx \$982,851

Zepa Medical \$150,000

Access to Care Grants Awarded December 2024,
Implimented in 2025: \$565,000

Asante Health \$115,000

Joya Child and Family Development Center \$100,000

Latinos En Spokane \$30,000

Maddie's Place \$100,000

Mujeres in Action \$60,000

Partners with Families and Children \$130,000

Spokane Prescription Assistance Network \$30,000



Grantee Impact

health & economic development

Asante Health- Completed contracts with several payers, used HSSA funds to cover \$37,000 in costs for uninsured patients, extended visit times and strengthened access to underserved and minority populations.

Blaze Barrier- Design was finalized and materially improved by transitioning to a propellant-based system significantly enhancing product safety, simplified regulatory requirements, and improved consistency of performance while maintaining effectiveness. The company relocated to a 9,500 square foot Spokane County manufacturing facility as featured in the Journal of Business, and implemented a manual production line capable of supporting early customer orders, pilot deployments and validation efforts. 2 new team members were added in the last 6 months.

Bovi.Tech- As the HSSA funded project comes to a close, Bovi will be able to maintain the 2 C-Suite Executives and 2 Engineers who relocated to Spokane County, as well as their new Spokane County office space. The company has diversified their mobile deployment innovation work to include fire prevention and mitigation, infrastructure maintenance in addition to the funded ag-tech project that reduced farmworker injury and illness with autonomous pesticide distribution. The company has secured two patents and two others are under review.

Credential Network- Officially launched the Credential Network Platform with 3 paying partners, including Spokane based U-District Physical Therapy, and has signed 10 channel partnerships. The company now has 4 staff positions based in Spokane County, multiple consultants with potential to convert to full time positions, and participated in Gonzaga University's New Venture Lab program. Credential Network also earned SOC2 Type 2 and HIPAA compliance. The company has been featured at several regional conferences and events, and been a featured guest on multiple podcasts including the Spokane based Medcurity Podcast, the Spokane Ignite Spotlight Series, and in the Journal of Business.

Gestalt Diagnostics- Completed the development of a new workflow that supports training for resident pathologists, and currently developing a new feature in the Education module that enables virtual classroom training sessions on a single patient specimen as a digital alternative to microscope based sessions. Gestalt has also developed new software functionality to assign patient tissue specimen for various diseases and categorizations. This enables sharing patient data for specific research projects or clinical trials based on their specific disease state and biomarker profile. The company has dedicated 5 existing employees and two new employees to these projects through both of their HSSA grant awards at the University District offices. The organization has been featured in a number of regional events, and their fundraising success was highlighted by GeekWire and Life Science Washington.

Glyciome- Developed local healthcare partnerships for PreBioGyn/PBG Clinical Trials garnering coverage in the Journal of Business. Formed a collaboration with local bioscience entity and HSSA grantee Precision Quantomics to provide primary analytical services and safety outcomes for Clinical Trials. Expanded lab and manufacturing capabilities by becoming the inaugural tenant at the Evergreen Bioscience Incubation Center. Successfully received National Cancer Institute Phase II Award bringing federal grant dollars to the region, and leveraged resources to expand the sale of Wild and Pure products online and at local retailers.



Grantee Impact

health & economic development

Inherent Biosciences- Continues their partnership with past HSSA Grantee Allele Diagnostics in the University District, and now supports 3 full time staff people in Spokane County. Budgets for proposed federal grants will include continued expansion in Spokane County if awarded. Inherent advanced next generation sequencing program by demonstrating that Oxford Nanopore sequencing provides deeper biological insight into male fertility than microarrays, which will improve scalability, enhance accuracy and strengthen the clinical value of the test. The test is now available both online and through Pinnacle Clinic in Spokane County. Research findings have been published in the Journal of Assisted Reproduction and Genetics.

Integrated Lipid Biofuels (ILB)- Successfully demonstrated the simultaneous extraction of both polyphenols and dietary fibers from potato peel matrix. Initial analysis reveals a promising composition. Expanded leadership team to include a COO, new headquarters in Spokane Valley and the launch of 3 business verticals to broaden the scope of work. CEO Dr. Newman spoke at Supply Side Global in two sessions on global nutrition and supplement conference.

Joya Child and Family Development-Building upon the expansion of the Registered Dietician services, Joya has created more access for pediatric therapy to eliminate service gaps and support continuity of care. 50 children were served by the program either under or uninsured.

Latinos En Spokane- 57,241 pounds of free, fresh culturally appropriate foods distributed to 820 families at EI Mercadito. Partnered with CHAS to bring Street Medicine directly to the Market. Community Health Navigation model supports families in navigating systems related to insurance, wellness and basic needs building long term health literacy.

Litehouse Health- 158 clinicians have worked more than 14,000 hours since April 2024 at 19 hospitals on shifts staffed by the platform. New collaborations are forming with regional partners.

Maddie's Place- Expanded to offer alumni supports in the warehouse facility adjacent to the main facility. In 2025 the main facility admitted 59 infants, 31 resident caregivers and an additional 75 through visitation, engaged 40 volunteers for over 3009 hours, and continues their work to advocate for legislative changes that could assist in funding services to infants with prenatal substance exposure and their caregivers in this community and others, pursuing best practice research, and garnering significant media attention including this article featured in The Guardian.

Managed Health Connections- Employee benefits provided with HSSA funding. New marketing coordinator has been hired. FDA q-sub response received, and continuing to engage in regulatory process for alcohol related medical devices. Platform enhancement efforts underway.

Medcurity- Utilized HSSA funds to support three key staff positions: programmer/software developer, technical analyst, and marketing manager. The success of HSSA funded positions led to additional hiring of a software developer, a partner manager and two part-time marketing roles. Supported 12 student internships. Converted 1 internship into a full-time position. Expanded capacity to deliver cybersecurity and compliance support to healthcare organizations while contributing to workforce development in Spokane County. Three key hires helped drive the developments and expanded the reach of the business serving more while maintaining strong security and sustainable staffing. The Medcurity Podcast was recognized as one of the Top Healthcare Technology Podcasts.



Grantee Impact

health & economic development

Mujeres in Action (MiA)-40 uninsured or underinsured individuals served in 6 month reporting period. Launched one on one counseling sessions providing the region's only trauma-informed and culturally responsive support to survivors of sexual assault and domestic violence. Hosted monthly workshops for Spanish-speaking women. Participated in several community and cultural events.

Omniscia AI- Formed a collaboration with Hyperbaric Wellness to help recruit long-haul COVID patients and manage the patients through hyperbaric treatments.

Parrots- Completed version 2 of Polly- enhanced AI health monitoring for early-stage Alzheimer's patients and clinician dashboard. Developed and completed 9 cognitive games for Alzheimer's and related conditions. Integrated ai monitoring and cognitive tracking, deployed in Spokane County pilot testing.

Partners with Families and Children- 43% increase in children seen for concerns of sexual abuse compared to the same period last year- 111 served, 41 for physical abuse, 10 for neglect, 20 for drug endangerment.

Phenomix- Utilizes HSSA funds to support the work of Spokane-based Chief Technology Officer Dr. Timothy O'Connor as they continue to expand their data platform designed for rapid, AI-driven genetic and multinomic analysis of novel traits, phenotypes and diseases. The MyPhenome Test is demonstrating meaningful health benefits and reductions in healthcare costs as the proper treatment can more easily be deployed at the proper time. There are seven clinics offering the Test in Washington State including one in Spokane County. Dr. O'Connor presented to the Pacific Symposium on Biocomputing in January 2026 on new developments on a GeneRisk score for Emotional Hunger.

Photon Biosciences- Groundbreaking preliminary data in single-molecule detection. Submitted multiple STTR Phase 1 proposals. Collaboration formed with University of New Mexico to evaluate Proprietary technology in detection of uranium contamination in environmental samples.

Precision Quantomics- Continues to develop new products and consultation services addressing critical gaps in drug development such as a physiological database, and characterized in vitro reagents as well as the commercialization of LC-MS assay kits. The company has advanced to many year two goals while still in year one.

Preveal Technologies- New headsets constructed. Conducted small usability study.

Quadralynx- In the first six months of the project, Quadralynx has funded 3 full time positions and 2 student workers. These key hires have been managing day to day business operations, identifying key partnerships, management of hardware development projects, software design and quality management, design and testing, and solicitation of investors and development of commercial strategy from their University District offices. Several key design and manufacturing regional collaborators support their work.



Grantee Impact

health & economic development

Qualterra- Completed their HSSA funded Industrial Symbiosis project focused on transferring waste heat from Qualterra's Biomass Processing Unit into their warehouse and greenhouse facility. The system now provides approximately 85 kWh of usable heat to the facility. The estimated annual cost savings are approximately \$34,117, and converts biomass feedstocks into biochar while simultaneously recovering renewable thermal energy. Qualterra also finalized a carbon credit registration and representation agreement and biochar produced in Spokane County qualifies for carbon-sequestration credits passed on to Qualterra Ag Biochar customers and partners.

Remmie Health- is finalizing a partnership with 5 Spokane County pediatric clinics and has developed an agreement with a Spokane County manufacturer. The company is currently recruiting for 3 full time positions in Spokane County in sales, customer success and health economics.

S2 Media- Has hired and maintained the positions supported with HSSA funds and is currently recruiting a Compounding Technician. The company has hired a Supply Chain Technician and increased the insurance stipend available to employees.

Slate Dental- Fully completed HSSA funded project to renovate a formerly vacant space in downtown Spokane into corporate headquarters and a fulfillment center that now houses 12 employees and contractors. The company has also entered into a new lease with a facility that includes a loading dock for national retail expansion. Over 70,000 flossers have been sold, and the company won the Delta Innovator Award and was recognized in RDH Magazine. The company also won the 2025 Cellerant Best of Class Hygiene Awards, and has been featured in GeekWire, the Goop Gift Guide, and a number of other national product features. Additionally, CEO Brynn MacLennan has been a keynote speaker and podcast guest.

Spokane Prescription Assistance Network/Prescription Drug Assistance Foundation- Served 331 uninsured or underinsured individuals in 2025 bringing prescriptions valued at \$3,121,749 to patients in our region through free or low cost medications, co-pay assistance and discount drug programs.

Spokane Regional Health District Quality of Life Survey- Data collection, quality assurance and data analysis have been successfully completed for the 2025 Quality of Life Survey. An initial dashboard has been created, and the full report will be published very soon. Findings will be shared by SRHD, HSSA and other partners, and used to support the development of the Community Health Assessment and Community Health Improvement Plan. Read the full report here.

WildeCare Education- Continued development of app features to support bedside workflow integration, structured coaching and validated performance tracking and developed a collaboration with Eastern Washington University's capstone nursing program. Key pilot study findings show novice nurses using WildeCare improved from 73 minutes per Emergency Room admission to 23 minutes and significantly improved clinical reasoning scores.

Zepa Medical- Continues to focus on product and technical development, and is utilizing a fractional software developer out of Spokane County to advance their AI enabled digital health application.



Our Team

[Learn more about the team at HSSA on our website.](#)



ERIN WILLIAMS HUETER

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Erin Williams Hueter joined Health Sciences and Services Authority of Spokane County in January 2023 as Executive Director. She discovered her passion for service at an early age and has been working in human services, public health, and violence prevention for thirty years. Erin has served on numerous Boards, Commissions and Task Forces and loves her community and working to see everyone in it thrive together.



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Board Chair Dr. Francisco Velázquez, Vice Chair Dr. Allison Glasunow, Grants Committee Chair, Dr. Daryll DeWald, Secretary, Julie Orchard, Governance Committee Chair, Dr. Darryl Potyk, Finance Committee Chair Lewis Rumpler, Chandima Bandara, Alisha Benson, Alex Jackson, Dr. Patrick Jones, Dr. Vange Ocasio Hochheimer, Dr. Robin Pickering, John Powers and Collins Sprague.



LEEANNE CLEGG

GRANTS ADMINISTRATOR

Leeanne built her career in special education. She furthered her career in community service serving for many years on boards and governing bodies. She volunteered as an advocate for survivors of sexual assault and served overseeing 12 step programs in Eastern Washington and Northern Idaho. Leeanne joined the staff of HSSA in 2024, and enjoys assisting and following the work of it's grant recipients.



AMANDA HATCHER

PROGRAM ASSISTANT

Amanda is a Spokane native who enjoys spending time with her family and serving community non-profits and charitable organizations. She works as a Program Assistant for Health Sciences and Services Authority of Spokane.